



**DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
2320 South DuPont Highway, Dover, DE 19901



**To: Newsroom Directors and Assignment Editors**

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Number of pages: 1

## **Summer is coming and fuel prices are rising** **DDA Weights and Measures inspectors are on job**

Summer travel will begin in earnest this Memorial Day weekend at the same time that fuel prices are skyrocketing. Whether the high fuel costs will put a dent in consumer travels remains to be seen. Michael Scuse, Delaware Secretary of Agriculture, said, "The Delaware Department of Agriculture (DDA) cannot help consumers with the price of fuel or how far they travel, but what we can do is help them get the right amount of fuel for the money they spend. DDA's dedicated Weights and Measures inspectors travel through the state each day protecting consumers from fraud."



Delaware has more than 8000 fuel pumps that are annually tested for accuracy each fiscal year (July 1- June 30) by the inspectors. To date, in this fiscal year, 6,500 have been tested and the rest are in the process of being tested. Consumers can tell if the pump has been inspected for accuracy by looking for this inspection seal on the pump.

Steve Connors, DDA Weights and Measures Section Administrator said, "I believe the majority fuel sellers are playing by the rules. My staff has found that with most problems, it's an honest mistake and sellers will do what is fair. Sometimes, however, honest people have not maintained their equipment, and this causes inaccuracies in measurements of fuel pumped. The bottom line is, don't be afraid to report problems

to the DDA Weights and Measures Section. DDA can take steps to ensure the seller honestly represents the amount of fuel being sold or can order sales to stop."

Consumers who think they have been defrauded should first check the inspection seal on the pump and then call the DDA Weights and Measures Section:

**(800) 282-8685 (DE only), (302) 698-4500 or 302-698-4602.**

Please provide the following information to assist the staff's investigation of the complaint:

Sellers' name:

Date of sale:

Location of pump:

Buyers' name:

Nature of the problem:

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